

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Office Action in the present application. The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The drawings are objected under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Claims 8 and 11 have been cancelled without prejudice to overcome the objection.

Claim 9 is objected to because of informalities. Claim 9 has been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1-4, 7-8 and 10-11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto.

Matsumoto describes a radiation photographing apparatus including a radiation image receiving portion for receiving radiation transmitted through an object and obtaining a radiation transmission image and a grid to be disposed on the object side of the radiation image receiving portion. Leighley describes an X-ray grid adaptor which is adjustable to receive a variety of X-ray cassettes of different thicknesses.

Applicant expresses his appreciation to Examiner Hoon Song and Examiner Ed Glick for the courtesy of an interview which was granted to Applicants' representative, Sanford T. Colb (Reg. No. 26,856). The interview was held in the USPTO on August 31, 2004.

In the interview, claims 1, 8, 10 and 11 were discussed vis-à-vis the prior art references Matsumoto and Leighley. The Interview Summary Record states, in relevant part, "Applicant proposed to amend claim 1 to include limitations of claim 9 and proposed to amend claim 10 to include a limitation of exchanging a plurality of removable grid to the extractable grid frame. The applicant agreed to cancel claims 8 and 11. Applicant also proposed to add a dependent claim to independent claim 10 that corresponds to claim 9. While the above proposed amendment will overcome the rejection of record, they will be subject to further search."

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the recitation of "visible lights

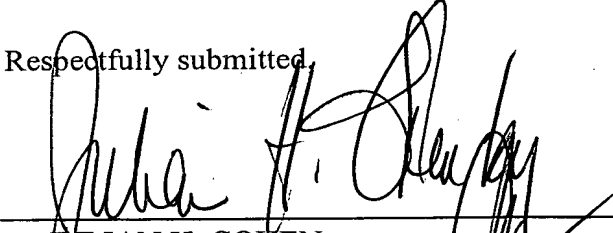
operative to indicate a status of the anti-scatter grid" which distinguishes over the prior art. Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found in claim 9 as originally filed, and in the specification on page 7, lines 16-23. Applicant has amended claim 10 to include the recitation of "between at least some of the procedures, exchanging ones of a plurality of removable grids having different grid characteristics" which distinguishes over the prior art. Support for the amendment to claim 10 is found in the specification on page 7, lines 12-15.

With reference to the above discussion, independent claims 1 and 10 are deemed patentable over the prior art of record and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 2-4 and 7 depend from claim 1 and recite additional patentable subject matter and therefore are deemed patentable. New claim 12 depends from claim 10 and recites additional patentable subject matter and is therefore deemed patentable.

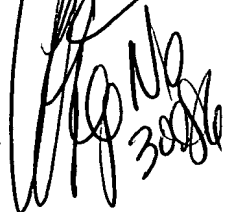
Applicant reserves the right to pursue the claims as filed in the context of a continuation application.

In view of the foregoing, all of the claims are deemed to be allowable. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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